

Change of Command Special Edition

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

SOUNDINGS

Detroit District



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***New Commander on board
at the Detroit District***

War Memorial provides venue for

Lt. Col. William J. Leady assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District, this past summer at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial in Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.

Brig. Gen. Bruce Berwick, commander Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, handed the Corps colors to Leady, symbolizing the transfer of leadership from Lt. Col. Donald Lauzon, who commanded the Detroit District since the summer of 2004. Prior to coming to Detroit Lt. Col. Leady served as a Professor of Military Science at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

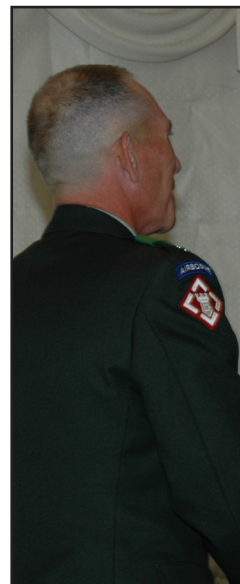
Leady, a native of Indiana, graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1987 and was commissioned into the United States Army as an engineer officer.

Leady earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the United States Military Academy West Point, New York and a Masters of Science in Engineering from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. He holds a professional engineer license from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

During the ceremony Brig. Gen. Berwick commented on mixed emotions for the incoming and outgoing commanders. Berwick said of Leady, "As you're sitting here with eagerness waiting to take on the challenges of leadership, you're probably wondering how you'll get it all done. But, you can get it all done because there are great people in this district to help."

Addressing the audience of Corps employees, retirees, stakeholders, family and friends, Leady said, "It's truly an honor and privilege to be standing here today. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead this great organization. I've been incredibly impressed with the dedication, talent and professionalism of the men and women of the Detroit District. I'm truly looking forward to leading and serving the Detroit team."

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SOUNDINGS

DISTRICT ENGINEER
Lt. Col. William Leady

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Cover: Brig. Gen. Bruce Berwick hands the Corps flag to Lt. Col. William Leady during the Change of Command Ceremony.

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Photos by Chris Marzan



(Upper left) Lt. Col. Leady addresses the audience at the ceremony. (Center) Lt. Pat Kuhne, from the district Project Management Office and Naval Reserve Officer, presents Lt. Col. Lauzon's dad, Petty Officer First Class (ret.) William Lauzon with a Seabee plaque and coin. (Right) Exec. Sec. Jennifer Thomas welcomes Lt. Col. Leady's wife, Melissa, on behalf of the district, with white rosebuds to represent the district's budding relationship with the Commander's wife and family.



Jennifer McCallum sings the Canadian and United States national anthems for the audience. (Center) Lt. Col. Lauzon, in a new technological tradition, turns over his personal assistant to the new Commander. (Right) Lt. Col. Leady and his family are stakeholders in the receiving line at the ceremony.



Change, contuned from page 2.

Lt. Col. Leady also served as CJ9 Engineer, Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan, Kabul; Deputy Commander, 80th Area Support Group, Mons, Belgium; Assistant Division Engineer, 1st Armored Division, Wiesbaden Germany; Executive Officer, 44th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Howze Korea; Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering, West Point, New York; Company Commander and Battalion Staff Officer, 41st Engineer Battalion, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York; and Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer in the 82nd Engineer Battalion, Bamberg Germany.

Leady's military awards and decorations include: The Bronze Star, 2nd award; Meritorious Service Medal, 4th award; Army Commendation Medal, 2nd award; Army Achievement Medal, 5th award; National Defense Service Medal, 2nd Award; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, 2nd Award; South-West Asia Medal with 2 stars; Afghan

Campaign Medal; Iraqi Campaign Medal; Korean Defense Service Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal. He has earned the Parachute Badge, Air Assault Badge and the Ranger Tab.

Leady is married with three children.

"To Lt. Col. Lauzon, it is bitter-sweet that we're saying good-bye,

but a new door is opening for him. Not only is he moving on but he's changing professions," said Berwick, of Lauzon's retirement and transition to private industry.

Lauzon said as he was leaving the Detroit District command, "The scope of the responsibility of the Detroit District is massive... we've worked with our Congressional

delegation over the past two years to make sure we took care of the most critical needs, because we have a very important responsibility and stewardship. So, I thank all of the Congress members and Senators for their support on our projects.

"As I said before, I chose to come here to Detroit. The Detroit District has absolutely the best people I've ever had an opportunity to work with in my career. We (the Lauzon family) look forward to our paths crossing again. Until we meet

again, thank you, may God Bless you, May God Bless the Army, and may God Bless the Nation. Essayons!"



Lt. Col. Lauzon introduces Lt. Col. Leady to Jeff Blatt, chief of Resource Management, as they "troop-the-line" an Army command change tradition.



Lt. Col. Lauzon takes an opportunity to say his last good-byes and complete all loose ends before departing the district office.